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Hot Press

1955

001-9327-55

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

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SUBJECT: Evaluation of Information furnished [REDACTED]

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*Orig. noted by
JCI 18 Nov 55.
Forwarded to Col. Hogan.*

1. [REDACTED] information bears many earmarks of a fabrication. Most of the information has been published in the press and could have been formulated by anyone with even a superficial flair for analyzing Communist strategy. Many points made by [REDACTED] represent the actual situations in various parts of Africa today. We do not believe his information offers anything new of a reliable nature, that would lend additional depth to intelligence from other sources. His dramatic account of a "bitter" fight among the Soviet leaders over Communist strategy in Africa is highly suspect.

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2. It is, of course, impossible to ascertain whether such an "intricate master plan"--alleged by [REDACTED] to have been drawn up with the participation of Khrushchev--actually exists. The plan he describes is logical, in view of Soviet interest and activity in Africa. Both Soviet and non-Soviet leaders in the international Communist movement have pointed to the rich opportunities for exploiting African nationalism, anti-imperialism, the color bar, poverty and ignorance, etc. There undoubtedly existed serious theoretical "blueprints" for the subversion of the continent during the Comintern period, and they probably exist today.

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3. [REDACTED] is of very dubious reliability as a source of intelligence. Reports concerning his past activities and his bona fides apparently cast doubt as to his motivations for supplying information to the United States. His general reputation is unsavory.

4. It seems highly unlikely that any one Czech official would have access to a Soviet master plan of this nature; at best, Czechs involved in specific portions of the alleged plan might have very general knowledge of the existence of over-all goals and detailed information as to their own (and necessarily restricted) role.

5. The author reveals in some detail that he is familiar with Czechoslovakia, which is hardly surprising since he is a Czech. His information concerning a Soviet Institute of Psychological Warfare located near Prague (masquerading as a center for jazz music) has not been previously reported, and I. G. Rossacilin, alleged to be the director of the African Affairs Department in the Institute is not known here.

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NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐☐ DECLASSIFIED

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6. While it may be possible to establish a connection between M. A. Suslov, as a member of the party Secretariat, and responsibility for liaison with foreign communist parties, we can not identify him as the head of any "International Bureau of the Soviet Communist Party." The source at times appears to include gratuitously specific bits of information which are probably fairly accurate but which have no relationship to his major topic. This may have been done to reinforce his claims of authenticity.

7. There have been an increasing number of Africans going behind the Iron Curtain for travel and training. The training of Africans for future leadership of the Communist movement in Africa was one of the Comintern projects never abandoned. It is not known, however, exactly what types of training the Orbit countries offer them. There is reason to believe that the response of the Africans to dialectical materialism has been somewhat lethargic, but Soviet training schools have had some gold-star graduates, such as Jomo Kenyatta. The devious methods outlined [REDACTED] for getting the Africans in and out of the Orbit appear to be exaggerated and unnecessary. STATOTHR

STATOTHR 8. [REDACTED] pattern, especially for developing Egypt as the center from which Communism will flow into black Africa, is unrealistic for the foreseeable future. The construction of a modern railroad from Egypt to such places as the Congo, Uganda and Ethiopia would pose enormous difficulties, requiring a period of time that would leave the specific types of weapons Moscow allegedly plans to ship into black Africa extremely outdated.

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HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Assistant Director
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